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The provision of housing facilities and child day-care centers for migrant workers has in many cases produced problems among migrant workers and the communities concerned. The reactions of both groups have ranged from generally positive to highly negative. This monograph presents the findings of an exploratory study conducted during the first year of a proposed three-year study which will attempt to identify, analyze, and understand the various divergent perspectives of migrants and the rural communities in which they are found. Data are presented on the attitudes of the communities in which migrant housing facilities are to be placed, including demographic information, attitudes toward the facility and migrant families, and factors affecting these attitudes. Data are also given on migrant workers and the day-care centers provided by the Office of Economic Opportunity. (DK)

THE CALIFORNIA MIGRANT FARM WORKER, HIS FAMILY, AND THE RURAL COMMUNITY

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THE CALIFORNIA MIGRANT FARM WORKER, HIS FAMILY, AND THE RURAL COMMUNITY

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ABSTRACT

Interest in ensuring an adequate supply of farm labor has focused attention on providing family housing as a means of attracting migrant farm workers to areas of high seasonal need. Community reaction toward such housing and its occupants has ranged from generally positive to highly negative. The development of intergroup understanding and cooperation will require that steps be taken to identify, analyze, and understand the various and divergent perspectives of both the community and the migrant farm workers.

The development of such intervention means is the ultimate aim of a project developed in the Department of Applied Behavioral Sciences, University of California, Davis. This report presents findings from exploratory data collected during the first year of a three-year study of migrant housing facilities established by grants from the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). Data were collected in interviews in selected communities and at OEO migrant farm-worker family housing facilities, and through visits to day-care centers in the OEO housing facilities.

Interviews were conducted with a sample of 427 residents from three communities lacking previous experience with farm-worker family housing. Demographic data from the sample indicated that these communities closely resembled similar California communities except for being less mobile.

Negative attitudes toward the housing facilities and farm-worker families were found in these communities. The attitudes resembled the animosity toward the housing facilities reported in various news media preceding establishment of the facilities. These attitudes were usually expressed in terms of fear of increased taxes, increased welfare expenditures, and decreases in property values; and opinions that the facility was not located in the right place, migrant family housing was not necessary, the migrant's behavior would cause community problems, and the like. Even so, the proportion of persons expressing such attitudes was not as great as had been indicated by news media.

Data on migrant families were collected through interviews with 319 adult farm-workers living in six OEO-funded housing facilities. Over four-fifths of the workers were of Mexican descent, with half of this number citizens of Mexico. They had large families (averaging five children each), and the education level was quite low. Almost half had not completed the fifth grade, and less than one-fifth had had any high-school experience.

Half of the 319 respondents said that their parents were farm workers, and over two-thirds started working in the fields before they were seventeen. Although almost nine-tenths said they did not want their children to become farm workers, over one-third felt that children from seven to twelve should be working in the fields. More than four-fifths of the children between twelve and eighteen were working in the fields, and over one-tenth of those from seven to twelve worked in the fields. Despite the large number of persons working per family, almost half reported an annual family income of less than $3,000 and only one-tenth reported incomes above $5,000.

The migrants were dissociated from the larger society to a fairly high degree, having little knowledge of the community or of the attitudes of the community toward themselves or the facility. Formal disaffiliation was rather high in that less than half of the respondents had voted during the past seven years, with over one-third of these voting in Mexico.

Less than one-tenth had ever been a member of a farm labor union, but more than half approved of such unions and would join if given the opportunity. About two-fifths believed farm-worker strikes were good, one-fourth said they were not good, and the rest had no opinion or said they did not know enough about the strikes.

Over nine-tenths found out about the housing facility by word of mouth or direct observation. Almost three-fifths planned to return next year. All were glad the camp was available--mostly because of low rent and a lack of other housing. Few had complained formally about the facility, but many were dissatisfied with certain features, generally physical aspects such as no refrigeration, dust, lack of privacy, and the like.

A high proportion of the respondents felt that the day-care facilities should be available to all youngsters from infancy through age twelve. The trend was similar concerning needs for organized programs for youngsters thirteen through seventeen. Most felt that the day-care programs should be educational and recreational, not merely care alone (baby-sitting).

In spite of the importance of the day-care centers to the migrants and the good job that most of them were doing, none of eight visited met all of the minimum physical requirements outlined in the Migrant Master Plan.[1] An evaluation based on minimum requirement for licensing day-care centers showed that playroom equipment generally was adequate but playroom space was not, especially during periods of peak enrollment. Most existing programs were adequate in art, science, and music but could be strengthened in other areas. All centers should be making a greater effort to involve parents and provide educational programs for parents. Pre-admission requirements were, for the most part, minimal, and few centers were keeping adequate health records for all children enrolled. Generally, the greatest problem facing the day-care centers was a shortage of well-trained professional staff and adequate training programs for the aides, usually recruited from among the occupants of the housing facility.

Recommendations:

1. All future housing facilities for migrant farm workers and their families should be located as close as possible to the fields where they work.

2. Although the OEO housing facilities were overwhelmingly endorsed by the migrants, their improvement, expansion, and maintenance must be continued to the extent that there is a desire to attract migrant farm workers to the state during harvest time.

3. The day-care centers were similarly endorsed by the respondents, but should be expanded and their programs improved.

4. In day-care centers, attention should be given to developing an educational curriculum that will compensate for the inadequate schooling of the children of migrant farm workers.

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[1] Office of Economic Opportunity, "State of California Migrant Master Plan," (mimeo), Sacramento, California, April, 1965, p. 1.

5. Educational opportunities should be provided school-age youngsters to help develop a feeling of participation in the society around them and perceive alternatives to migrant farm-work in adult life.

6. The low educational level of the migrant (revealed in this and similar studies) indicates that educational programs must be an integral part of these and similar migrant-housing facilities.

7. The investigator recommends that, in the future, a participant observer technique be employed to gain more meaningful attitudinal data from the migrant farm workers.

INTRODUCTION

The Problem

The demise of the bracero program has focused new attention on the domestic farm worker. Though the mechanization of agriculture continues to expand, the harvest of perishable crops will probably require large supplies of seasonal laborers for at least the next decade. To help ensure an adequate labor supply and to improve the laborer's living conditions, low-cost housing is being provided by the California Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) for migratory farm workers and their families in areas of highly seasonal labor. Housing complexes with as many as 100 units were set up and occupied during the 1966 harvest season.

Community reactions to these facilities and their occupants have varied. Actual problems created in a community by the influx of migrant farm workers should be assessed, of course. But that assessment will be incomplete without understanding of how the migrant farm worker is affected by the situation in which he finds himself, and how he judges that situation. Only by viewing and understanding the differing perspectives of both these groups and the ensuing interaction patterns can one hope to minimize conflict and maximize intergroup understanding and cooperation.

The Objectives

The OEO migrant-housing program provides a unique situation in which to study the migrant farm worker, his family, the rural community of California, and the circumstances under which they meet. Groundwork for research in this area had been laid by the Department of Applied Behavioral Sciences of the University of California, Davis, in a previous study of domestic farm workers.[1] Consequently, early in 1966 a three-year research project was launched, with the following long-range objectives:

a) To develop a profile of the migrant farm worker and his family, for better understanding of their needs in relation to those of the community;

b) To develop guidelines for housing facilities for migrant families in rural communities of California;

c) To develop guidelines for community services for migrant farm workers and their families.

This report on the first year of exploratory study is based on data collected in the peak seasonal months--July through September--of the 1966 harvest season in Northern California. Analyses of these data will be continued with the aims of giving future direction to the project and refining data-collecting devices.

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[1] Becket, James W., The Domestic Farm Laborer: A Study of Yolo County Tomato Pickers. (Research Monograph No. 2, Davis: Department of Agricultural Education, University of California, 1966).

The project comprised three phases: Phase I, in which residents were interviewed in three communities near OEO migrant-housing complexes; Phase II, in which six migrant-housing facilities were contacted, and one adult from each family living there was interviewed; and Phase III, in which interviews were conducted with a 60 percent sample of the migrant-family homemakers in six OEO migrant facilities. The information collected in Phase III will be reported when the data has been analyzed.

Also included were studies of the facilities of eight day-care centers for younger children of migrant workers. The findings are presented in Chapter III.

CHAPTER I--THE COMMUNITY (Phase I)

DESIGN AND PROCEDURES

Community Selection

The three rural communities selected for this phase of the project were Madison, in Yolo County; and Ballico and Los Banos, both in Merced County. These particular communities were chosen for the following reasons: 1) they were near three OEO migrant-housing facilities proposed but not completed and not yet occupied; 2) housing facilities had not previously been available for migrant farm-worker families in those areas; and 3) two of the three communities had expressed definite negative reactions to having migrant housing facilities nearby.[1,2]

The Objectives

Information was collected to achieve the following objectives:

a) To gather demographic data on the community members and their families;

b) To determine attitudes toward the migrant-housing facility and its occupants;

c) To determine the extent to which residents feel a need to improve the living conditions of migrant farm workers and their families;

d) To determine the impact on the institutions of the community anticipated from the facility and its occupants.

The Instruments

The above objectives were used to build a series of open-ended and fixed-alternative questions. In its final form the interview schedule consisted of 80 items. The Warner Scale[3] was used to establish the social class of the community members. This scale rates social class on four factors: source of income, house type, dwelling area, and occupation.

In a pre-test, thirty-seven interviews were collected in Winters (Yolo County) and Lodi (San Joaquin County), both located near OEO migrant housing facilities. After the pre-test, the instruments were revised and translated into Spanish by the three bilingual interviewers on the team.

Two of the four items on the Warner Scale (Housing-Type Scale and Dwelling-Area Scale) required the interviewers to make evaluative decisions based on observation. To establish a reasonable consensus among the interviewers and to standardize observational procedures, all interviewers participated in two in-field training sessions conducted by J. W. Becket of the Department of Applied Behavioral Sciences.

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[1] The Daily Democrat, (Woodland, California), March 15, 1966, 2, and March 23, 1966, 15.

[2] Los Banos Enterprise, June 6, 1966, 1, 6, and 7.

[3] Warner, Lloyd W., Social Class in America, 1960.

The Sample

Ten percent of the residents of Madison, Ballico, Los Banos, and the immediate environs were sampled by area random-sampling procedure. In the country areas a systematic technique was employed, with every fifth farm contacted in a seven-square-mile area around each migrant camp. Because of out-migration in some of these rural areas, particularly in Los Banos, a fairly large number of the selected residences were vacant. This factor, coupled with more than 100 "not at homes" and refusals, reduced the number of usable interviews for the three communities to 427, approximately five percent of the total population from which the sample was drawn. No property was classified "not at home" until revisited fruitlessly three times at three different periods of the day.

The Interviewers

There were six interviewers, five females and one male, working in the three communities. All were Anglo-Americans except for one Mexican-American female. All were either upper-division undergraduates or graduates of a university. Three, as already indicated, spoke both Spanish and English.

The interviewers spent a week in training. A part of this time was spent in reviewing literature that was germane to interviewing migrant farm workers. Preliminary to the pre-test interviewing, the interviewers were given one day of intensive training by the project staff. The pre-test interviewing was used as an in-service training period, which was followed by a day for a critique of the approaches used and the schedule.

Other Sources of Information

Each interviewer was asked to write a report of his experiences in the field. These reports have proved very useful in that they cover areas of interviewer-interviewee interaction and community activity which are not covered by the other instruments.

Various local school officials, growers' association managers, university specialists, and other individuals were consulted informally in an effort to gain a more complete picture of the community residents and their views toward the neighboring migrant farm worker facility and its future occupants.

FINDINGS

Introduction

> "There are major inconsistencies in the assumptions that Anglo-Americans and Mexican-Americans hold about one another. Anglo-Americans assume that Mexican-Americans are their potential, if not actual peers, but at the same time assume they are their inferiors . . .Thus the negative images provide not only a rational definition of the inter-group relation that makes it palatable for Anglo-Americans, but also a substantial support for maintaining the relation as it is . . .The mutual expectations of the two groups contrast sharply with the ideal of a complementarity of expectations, in that Anglo-Americans expect Mexicans to become just like themselves, if they are to be accorded equal status in the larger society, whereas Mexican-Americans want full acceptance, regardless of the extent to which they give up their own ways and acquire those of the dominant group."[4]

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[4] Simmons, Ozzie G., "The Mutual Images and Expectations of Anglo-Americans and Mexican-Americans," Daedalus, XC (Spring, 1960), 286-299.

In general, the above statements represent the framework upon which the community phase of this project was based. Although it was an accepted fact that California growers would be highly dependent upon migrant farm workers during peak harvest periods, some communities experienced a great deal of resistance to establishing camps for migrant families. This phase of the project was designed to identify more clearly the attitudes held by members in communities near a migrant-family housing facility, to attempt to discover the causes of such attitudes, and, if possible, to develop necessary intervention measures.

The findings reported in this section are based on analysis of the exploratory data collected and are descriptive in nature. Therefore, no attempt should be made to generalize the reported findings or to draw general implications.

Generalizations and/or implications resulting from more detailed future analyses will be used primarily to generate hypotheses to be tested by data collected in future years.

Demographic Findings

The data collected in the three communities under study tend to indicate that the populations are more stable than is the total population of the state today. It was found that 89 percent of the persons interviewed (a 5 percent sample) were permanent residents of their community and that half of them had been residents of the community for eleven years or more. Almost 70 percent of the respondents were female, and the households averaged 2.8 children. The interviewees were classified as 88 percent Anglos, 7.1 percent Mexican-American, 3.4 percent Oriental, and 1.5 percent Negro. They were predominantly Protestant (57.1 percent) and one-third Catholic, with the remainder reporting other or no religious preference.

Warner Scale criteria classified 18.5 percent as upper or upper-middle class, and about 45 percent as middle class. About 55 percent were high-school graduates, and 19.5 percent had attended or graduated from college. About 64 percent said they wanted their children to graduate from college, 12.5 percent hoped for some college, 10.9 percent hoped for graduation from high school, and 10.8 percent said that education level would be up to the child. Despite this rather high level of educational aspiration for their children, the question "How far do you expect your child to go in school?" elicited less optimistic views, with 42.2 percent listing college graduate, 8.9 percent some college, 22.2 percent high-school graduate, and 26.7 percent saying the child would determine.

On the basis of Warner Scale occupational definitions, 28.4 percent of the respondents were classified as professional and 23.7 percent as semi-professional. Classification for each community was: Ballico 51.3 percent professional and 19.8 percent semi-professional; Los Banos 34.2 percent professional and 27.0 percent semi-professional; Madison 31.0 percent professional and 20.7 percent semi-professionals.

The mean taxable family income reported by all respondents was slightly more than $7,500 per year: almost $5,700 for Madison, about $7,500 for Ballico, and approximately $8,350 for Los Banos. Table I shows that an annual income of $3,499 or less was reported by 12 percent from Los Banos, 17 percent from Ballico, and almost 29 percent from Madison.

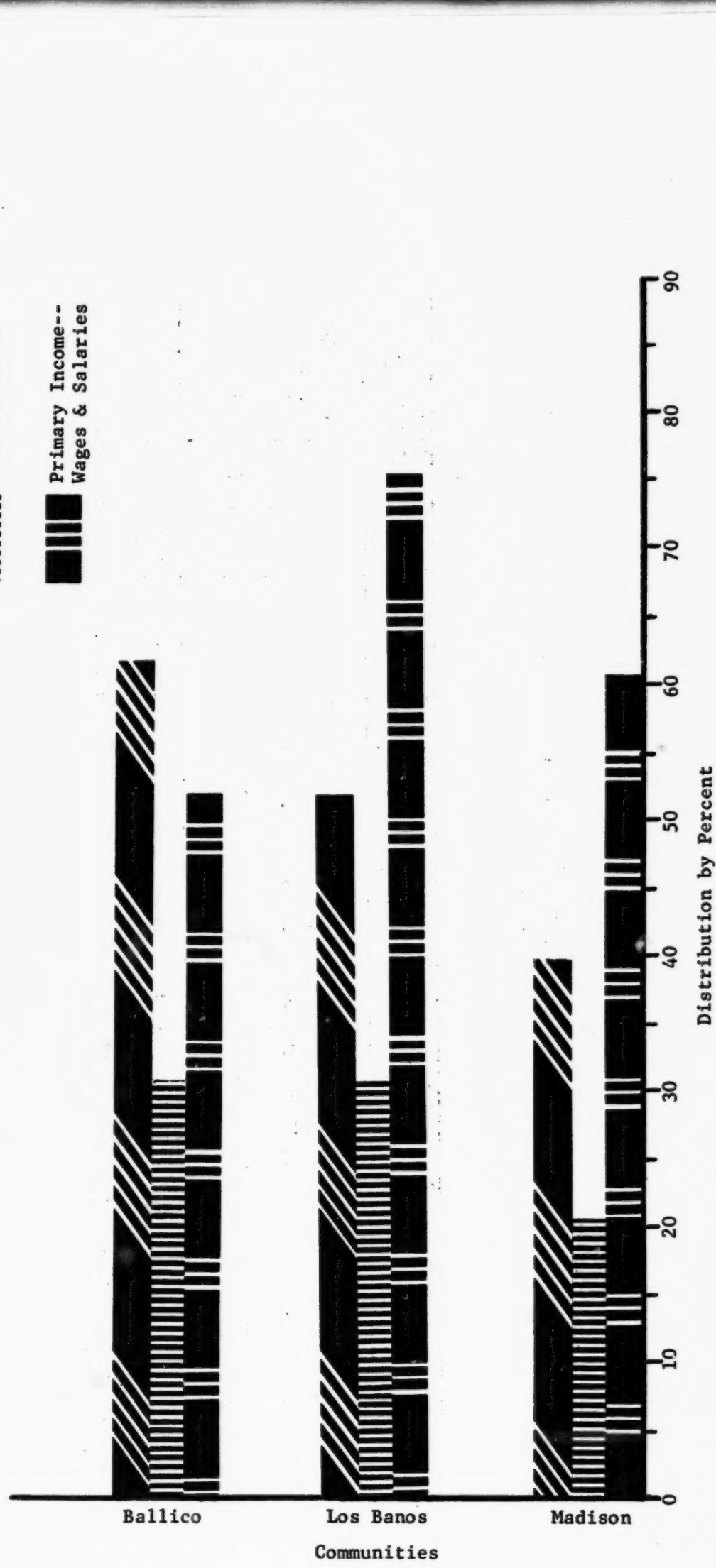
TABLE I

DISTRIBUTION OF TAXABLE FAMILY INCOME BY COMMUNITY
(n-427)

Community	$1,999 or less		$2,000-$3,499		$3,500-$4,999		$5,000-$6,999		$7,000-$9,999		$10,000-$14,999		$15,000-$24,999		Over $25,000		Total*
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Ballico	12	9.9	9	7.4	24	19.8	24	19.8	14	11.6	13	10.7	6	5.0	7	5.8	109
Los Banos	10	4.6	15	6.9	17	7.8	40	18.3	55	25.1	48	21.9	12	5.5	5	2.3	202
Madison	18	20.7	7	8.1	11	12.6	9	10.3	9	10.3	12	13.8	3	3.5	2	2.3	71
Total	40	9.4	31	7.4	52	12.1	73	17.1	78	18.3	73	17.1	21	4.9	14	3.2	382

*Totals listed do not include those who did not respond to this item: Ballico, 12, 9.9%; Los Banos, 17, 7.8%; Madison, 16, 18.4%; and total, 45, 10.5%.

Figure 1. Other Income Related Factors



At the same time, an annual income of $15,000 or more was reported by about 11 percent of the Ballico sample, 8 percent from Los Banos, and 6 percent from Madison.

Figure 1 shows other data related to income. Slightly over 50 percent of the respondents from Ballico indicated that wages and salaries were their primary source of income, compared with 76 percent for Los Banos and about 60 percent in Madison. An income in addition to that from their primary source was reported by almost 31 percent from Ballico, 29 percent from Los Banos, and only 21 percent from Madison. Property ownership was reported by more than 62 percent of the Ballico respondents, 52 percent for Los Banos, and 40 percent for Madison.

Community Attitudes

Except for one question, "How does the community feel about the migrant housing facility and its occupants?", all attitudinal questions were asked in terms of "How do you ...?" In view of the apparent high degree of negative feeling toward the facility and the migrant families already expressed in two of the communities while the facilities were still in their planning stages,[5] it is felt many of the questions were answered in terms the interviewees believed were socially acceptable. The findings reported in this section are based only on analyses in terms of a frequency and percentage distribution of the responses to each question. In all figures reported in this section, the data representing the distribution of responses to the question "How does the community feel about the migrant housing facility and its occupants?" will be plotted as a comparison with the data of other groups of attitudinal responses.

Toward the Facility

Figure 2 shows the differences among the three communities in negative attitudes toward the facility in terms of fiscal factors. There was little difference in feelings about the facility's effect on local taxes. Over half of the respondents in each community felt that their taxes would increase as the result of construction of the OEO migrant housing facility. Belief that county welfare expenditures would increase was expressed by about 32 percent of the Ballico sample, 42 percent from Los Banos, and 43 percent from Madison.

Slightly more than 16 percent of the respondents in Ballico said the facility would lower the value of their property, compared to about 33 percent in Los Banos and Madison. Only 6 percent from Ballico and about 10 percent from Los Banos felt that the facility would not be good for local business, compared with 21 percent from the Madison community.

The location of the facility was criticized by about 4 percent of the Ballico respondents (Figure 2) and about 30 percent of the respondents from Madison and Los Banos. Similarly, some 9 percent of the interviewees from the Ballico community felt the facility was undesirable for the community, compared with 17.5 percent from Los Banos and 47 percent from Madison. Less than five percent of the Ballico respondents felt that such housing was unnecessary, compared with 16 percent from Los Banos and 30 percent from Madison.

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[5] The Daily Democrat; Los Banos Enterprise, Loc. Cit.

Figure 2. Community Attitudes Toward Migrant-housing Facility

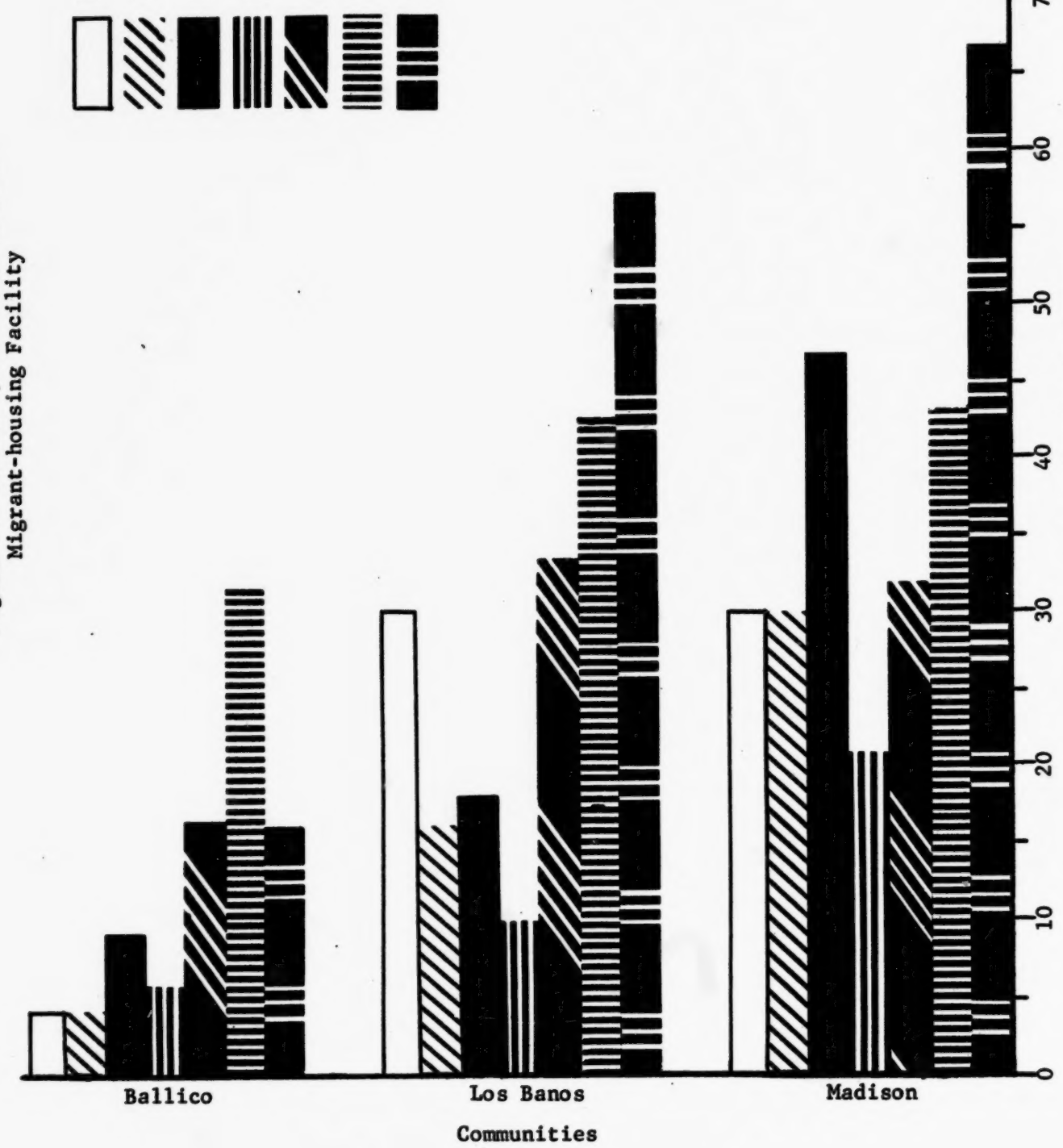
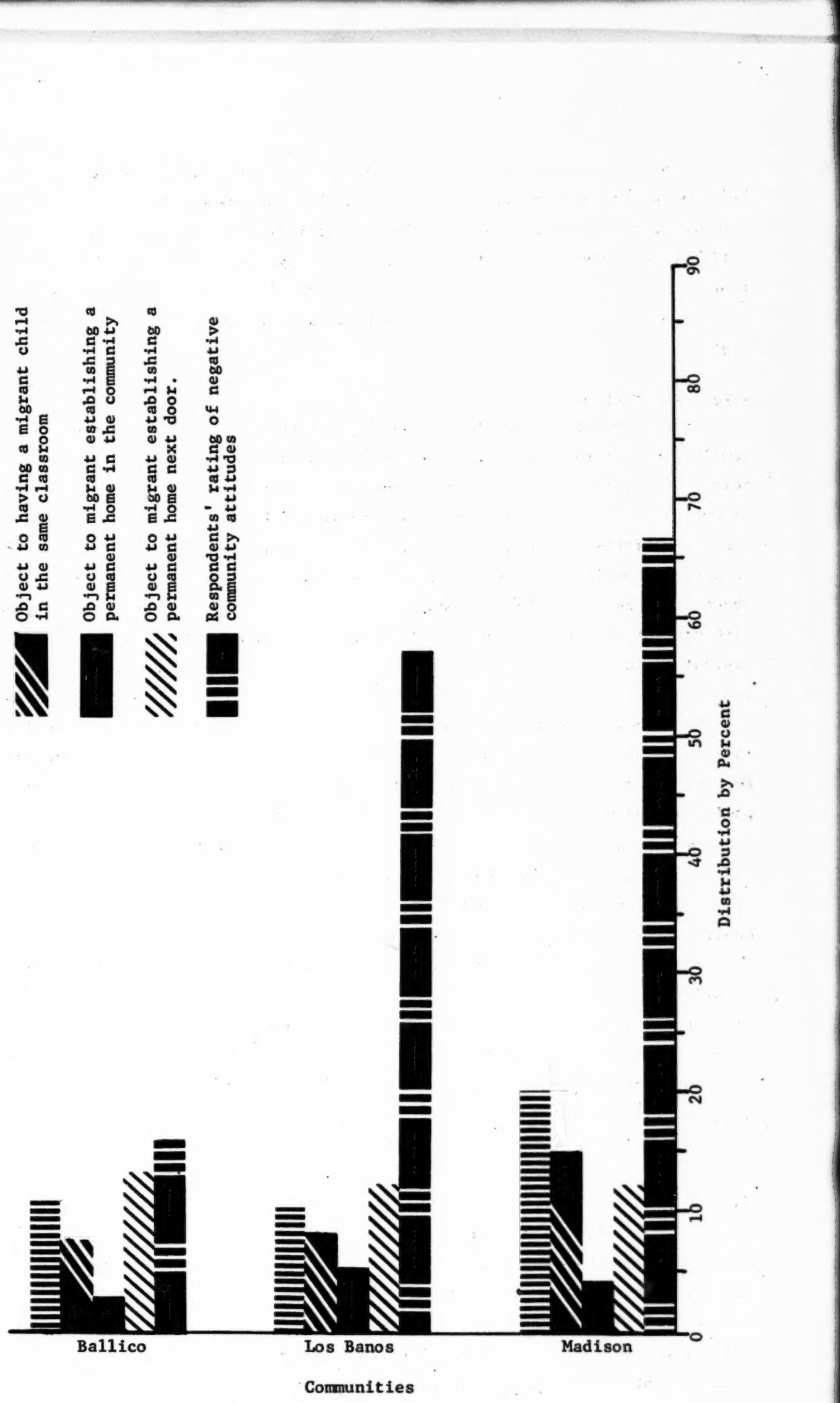


Figure 3. Community Attitudes Toward the Migrant Family



These data readily show that the attitudes expressed by the respondents themselves were not nearly as negative toward the facility as one would expect from news stories that appeared after plans for construction of the facilities were announced.[6] Neither were the attitudes expressed by the respondents as highly negative toward the facility as the respondents said their communities felt. Thus, the interviewees may have tended to give responses that they felt were more socially acceptable in terms of middle-class value systems.

Toward the Migrant Family

In attempting to ascertain community attitudes toward the migrant farm worker and his family, the interviewees were asked questions couched in terms of their feelings about being physically close to a migrant and/or members of his family. Figure 3 shows the distribution of attitudes in terms of the migrants' becoming a permanent part of the community. There was little difference among the three communities in objection to migrants' moving into the community or moving into the residence next door. In both Ballico and Los Banos, about seven percent said they would object to their children being in the same classroom with migrant children, compared with 15 percent from Madison. As to children bringing a migrant child into their home, about 11 percent of the respondents in the Ballico and Los Banos communities said they would object, compared with nearly 20 percent in Madison.

Data showed a general professed acceptance of the use of public facilities by migrant families. Objection from the communities increased considerably where there was greater possibility of close personal contact, being nearly twice as frequent concerning swimming pools, attending dances, or patronizing bars as for parks, movies, or better businesses.

Objection to migrant use of swimming pools was greater in Madison and Ballico than in Los Banos, and a slightly higher percentage of respondents in Ballico felt that migrants should be restricted from better businesses. Ironically, only Los Banos of the three communities has a public park, public swimming pool, movie theatre, or better businesses.

Figure 4 shows differences in apparent concern over the effects of migrant social behavior on both the total community and the local families. Community problems were anticipated by 16 percent of the respondents from Ballico, slightly over 30 percent in Los Banos, and more than 38 percent in Madison. As to effects on the families themselves, concern was expressed by, oddly enough, about half of the percentages expressing concern for the community.

One would expect similar distributions of responses to the following questions: "Should the community make an effort to make the migrants feel welcome in the community?" and "Would you want a migrant at community functions such as parades, picnics, etc?" However, Figure 4 shows that in answer to the first question, 16.5 percent from Ballico, 12.5 percent from Los Banos, and 26.5 percent from Madison believed that communities should not make an effort to make the migrants feel welcome. As far as the second question was concerned, Ballico showed the highest percentage of respondents objecting to a migrant family attending a community function (19 percent), compared with 10 percent from Los Banos and 14.5 percent from the Madison community.

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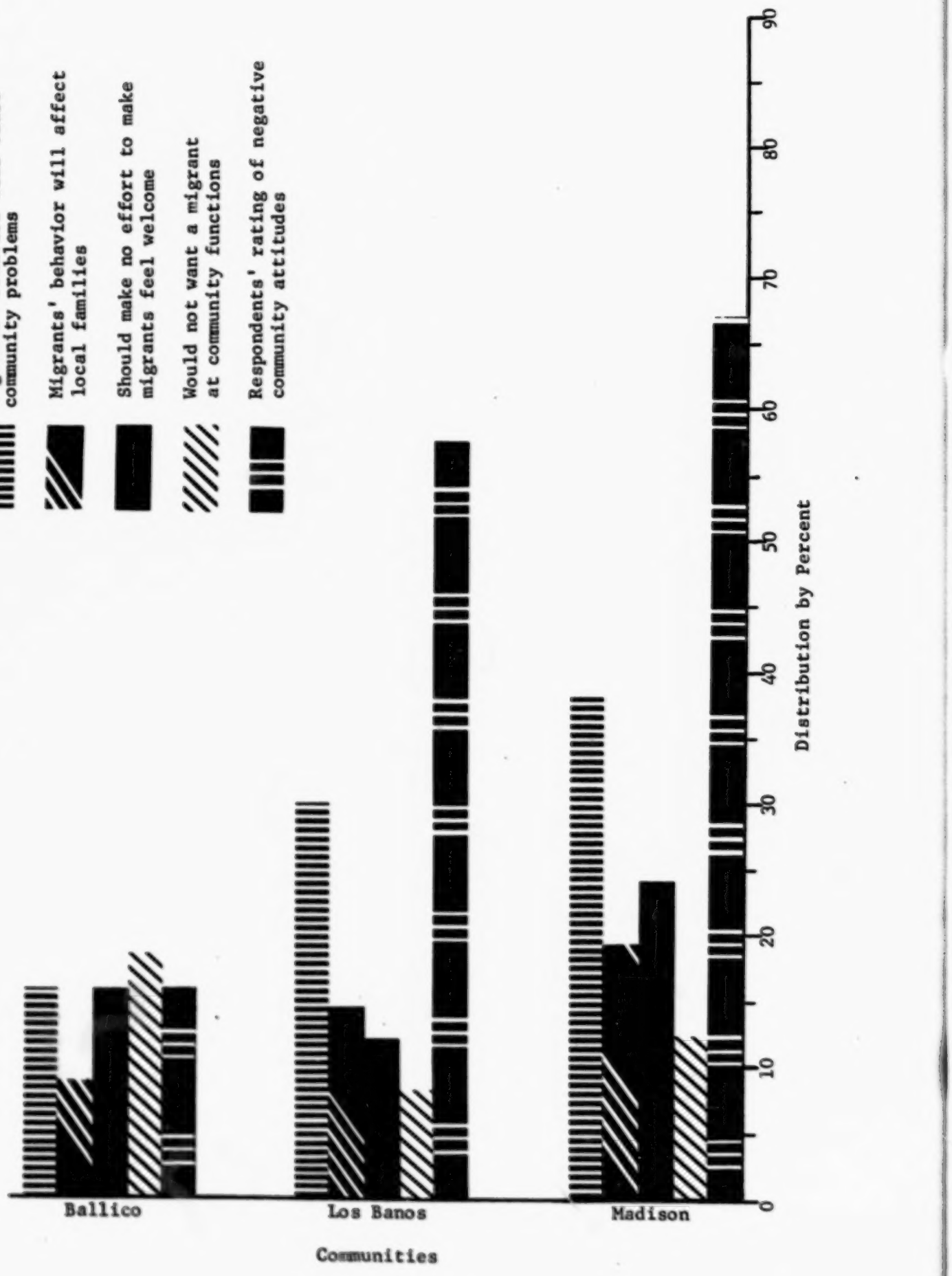
[6] Ibid.

Figure 4. Community Attitudes Toward Migrant Farm Workers



These distributions do not represent final analysis of these data, but the findings do tend to corroborate the feeling of the research team that some of the attitudes expressed toward the migrant must be considered with a great deal of caution. Under no circumstances should the reader attempt sweeping inferences or conclude that these attitudes are final and conclusive.

Factors Affecting Attitudes

As previously stated, the findings represent only a preliminary analysis, with no attempt yet made to identify causal relationships. Nevertheless, some of the distributions do indicate a good possibility of reasonably high correlations between certain factors. Figure 1 shows that there may be a reasonably high correlation between community attitudes and property ownership, income, and the source of the respondent's primary source of income. It appears highly probable that these relations will be proved in more detailed analyses since these variables are indicators of fiscal wealth and security, tending to isolate the possessor from the migrant or any other member of a lower social class. By the same token, residents owning little or no property and with no outside income might well see the migrant family as a threat to their own security, harboring more negative attitudes.

The data indicate that there may be a rather high negative correlation between distance from the site of the OEO housing facility and negative community attitudes. In Ballico, where the camp is some two and one-half miles from the nearest population concentration (Ballico), only 16 percent felt that the general attitude of the community toward the facility and its occupants was negative, compared with 58 percent in Los Banos (one mile from the camp), and 66 percent in Madison (only one-fourth mile from the camp).

The reader should not conclude that if the camp is physically isolated (hidden) from concentrations of population, all negative community attitudes will disappear. Only in Ballico was the camp located close to where the occupants would find employment. In both Los Banos and Madison, the camps were located on sites that were apparently expedient in the eyes of the County Board of Supervisors, and not in areas where there was a high demand for farm labor which was largely met this past year by migrants.

CHAPTER II--THE MIGRANT FARM WORKERS (Phase II)

DESIGN AND PROCEDURES

The Facility

The six facilities selected in this phase of the project are all in Northern California: Madison, in Yolo County, with 100 housing units; Empire and Patterson, in Stanislaus County, respectively with 100 and 50 units; Los Banos and Ballico, in Merced County, respectively with 100 and 50 units; and Hollister, in San Benito County, with 100 units. A facility at Harney Lane, near Lodi, in San Joaquin County, was contacted only to pretest the instrument, and therefore is not included as a site actually sampled.

The majority of the housing units in the six facilities were of the flash-peak plydome type of construction, made of a polyurethane material. Each unit had 346 square feet of floor space and was designed to accommodate a maximum of five people. Some camps also used a paradome unit, and one camp used a more conventional square shape and plywood construction.

Each unit was equipped with a two-burner electric hot plate installed in a counter top, which also included a sink. Cold water was piped to each unit, and each sink was connected to the camp's sewage-disposal system. Most camps provided single-size metal cots with springs but no mattresses. These were the only furnishings provided.

In the majority of camps the apparent formula used for sanitary provisions was one toilet and shower unit for men and women for each six housing units. Construction varied from communal type to prefabricated single-toilet and shower units. In general, one automatic washer was provided for each six housing units, and one electric dryer for each twelve housing units.

These six facilities were chosen for several basic reasons: First, the California OEO indicated that these six facilities would be built, opened, and occupied during the months planned for interviewing--July through September, 1966. Second, Madison, Ballico, and Los Banos had not previously provided migrant farm housing facilities for families, which would provide a comparison with the Patterson, Empire, and Hollister sites, which had previously had some such housing arrangements. Finally, all these sites were reasonably close to the project's headquarters, at the University of California, Davis.

The Objectives

In the migrant-housing facilities information was collected to achieve the following objectives:

a) To gather demographic data on the migrant farm worker and his family;

b) To determine definite migratory patterns, if any;

c) To identify factors leading to entry into farm labor;

d) To identify factors contributing to migration;

e) To identify the migrant's attitudes toward the housing facility in terms of:
   1) Physical characteristics;
   2) Administration and management;
   3) Degree of involvement in activities of the facilities;
f) To identify the migrant's attitudes toward and involvement in education;
g) To identify the migrant's attitudes toward farm labor.

The Instrument

Consulted in development of the instrument were the Survey Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley, and the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Davis. In its final version, the instrument contained 175 items. The schedule was pre-tested at the Harney Lane migrant camp near Lodi, where forty-seven interviews were conducted over a two-day period. The instrument was revised after the pre-testing and translated into Spanish.

The Sample

One adult working member of each family was interviewed in each of the six communities. Also, in an effort to get some ideas about the nature of changing populations in these facilities, all the same facilities were contacted again, and all new arrivals listed in the facility records were interviewed. There were 325 migrant families interviewed in the six facilities. Elimination of six incomplete interview schedules reduces to 319 the number of interviews on which the findings reported in this paper are based.

Other Sources of Information

Interviews with OEO staff members, growers' association managers, housing-authority personnel, facility managers and staff, and various other individuals provided information on operation of the facilities and some of the attitudes held by the migrants toward the facility and the neighboring community.

The facility records also provided some information on the migrant farm worker and his family. These included such things as personal history, work history, and also some information relative to migratory patterns.

The interviewers also kept a daily field work journal describing their observations and impressions of the various facilities and their occupants.

FINDINGS

Demographic Findings

Who These People Are

The age distribution of the migrants in the camp (see Figure 5) is not what one would expect to find when looking at a distribution of a labor force, presenting two peaks instead of a simple curve. A possible explanation for the fewer workers between 21 and 35 would be that at that age level people are starting to raise their families and fewer would be working in the migrant stream. Another possibility could be that the mothers and infants remain at a permanent home base while fathers in the migrant stream live in a "single men's camp."

Figure 5. Age Distribution of Migrants

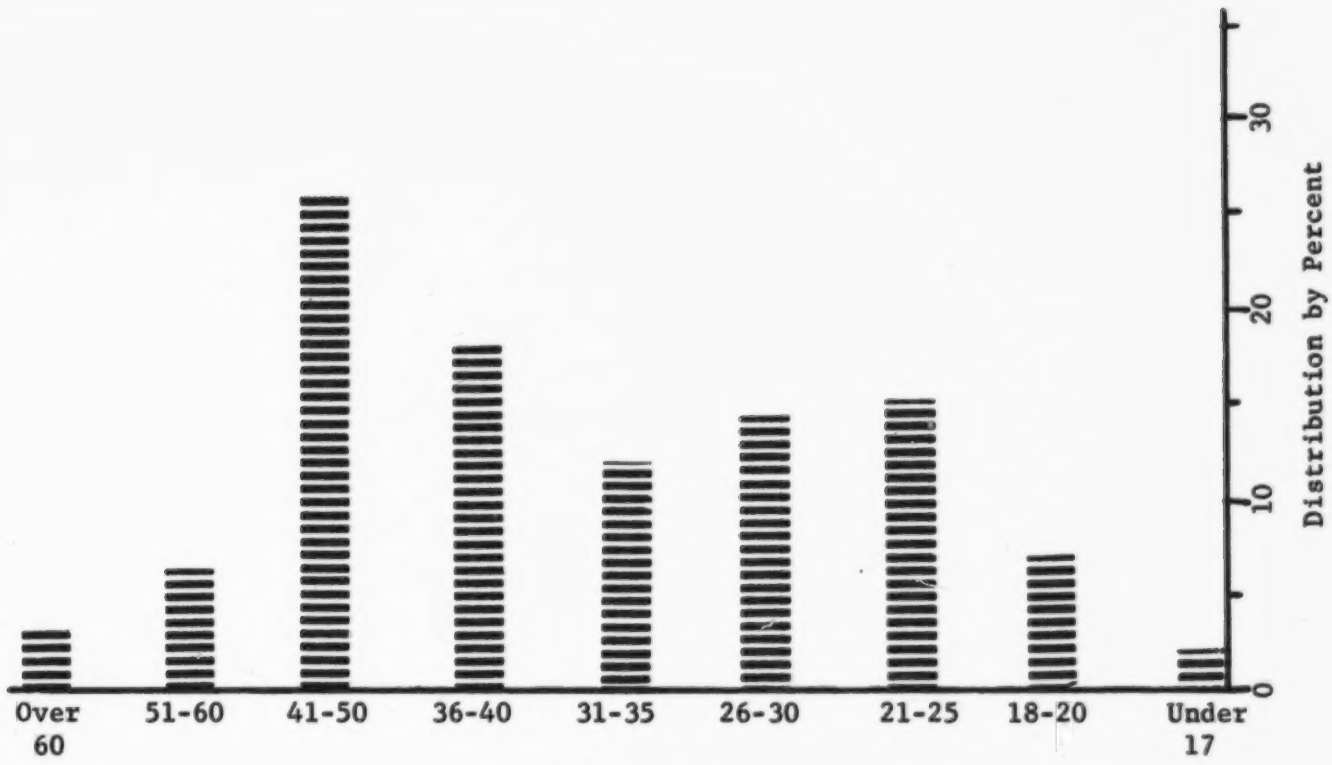
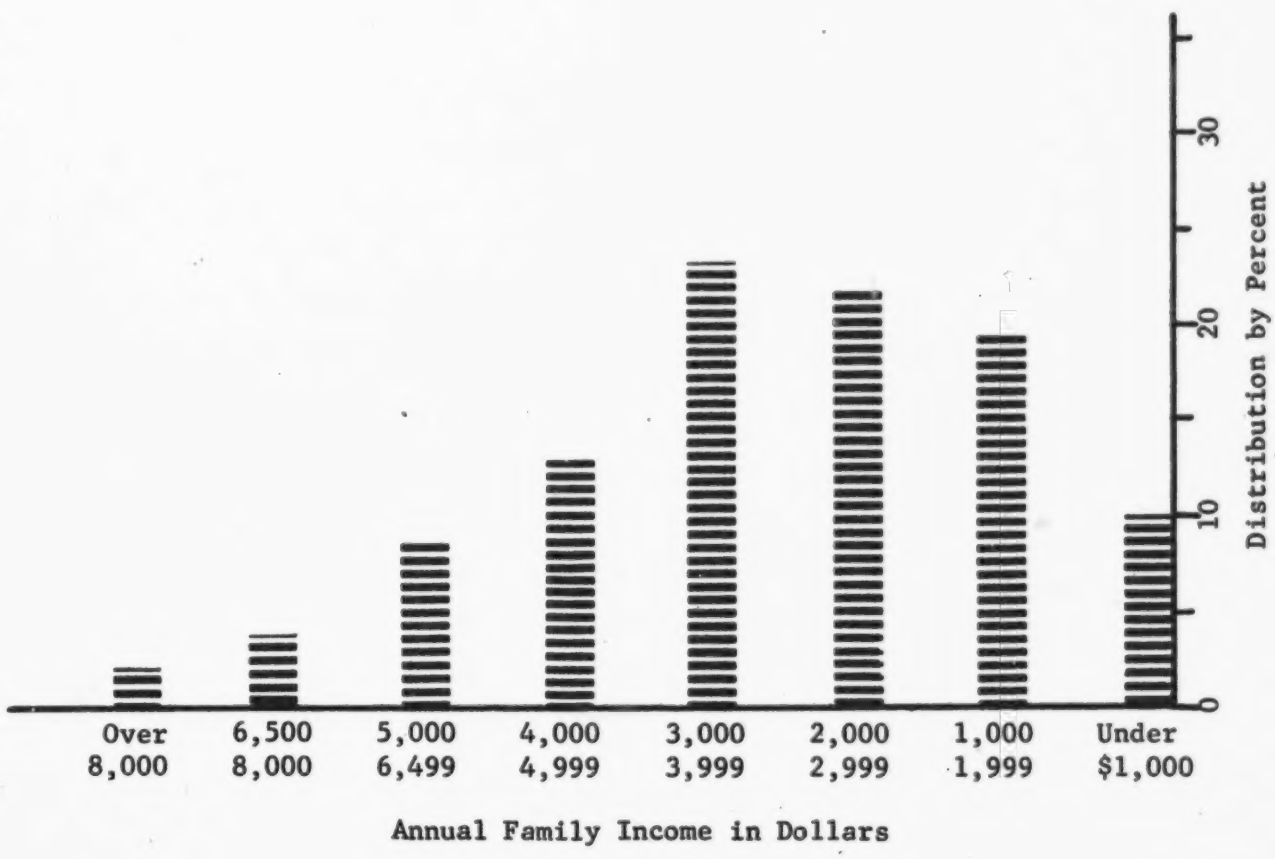


Figure 6. Income Distribution of Migrants



Families in the facilities tended to be large; aside from 43 families reporting that they had no children, children averaged 4.8 per household. With some children grown and no longer living with their parents, the average number in the facility homes was 4.1. Thus, the people in the facilities usually tended to be younger couples without children or older couples whose children were out of infancy.

Ethnic composition was quite homogeneous, with 84 percent of the population either Mexican-American (44 percent) or Mexican citizens (40 percent). Fourteen percent were "Anglos," leaving only minimal representation of Negroes and Indians. This distribution appears to explain the distribution of religious preference. Almost 75 percent were Catholic, and 18.8 percent Protestant, with 7 percent claiming no religious preference. Despite the 40 percent born in Mexico, the largest proportion of respondents stated that their closest friends lived in California or in Texas (31 percent were born in Texas) and only 14 percent gave "Mexico" as a response to the question "Where are you from?" Thus, they felt that their "home" was in the United States.

Almost 50 percent reported that their parents were also working as farm laborers. By age 17, more than two-thirds (69.5 percent) of the respondents had begun their life in the fields, regardless of the occupation of their parents. When asked what type of jobs they have spent most of their lives doing, only about one-fourth reported something other than farm jobs. Most of these people, then, grew up knowing the life of the migrant laborer, and they themselves followed in the paths of their parents, with little occupational mobility between generations compared with other groups.

What They Are Like--A Brief Profile

The income of the migrant workers interviewed was strikingly low considering the size of the families (see Figure 6), but this relation between income and family size follows the general pattern for lower-class families. Of those answering the question on income, almost half reported an annual family income of less than $3,000; only about 10 percent reported incomes above $5,000.

Educationally the sample showed relatively low achievement levels (see Figure 7). Of great interest is the pattern of educational achievement: the distribution presents almost a reverse pattern to that for a middle-class sample. Further, many of the migrants reporting some education received it in Mexico, which may imply that they are even less advanced by American middle-class standards than Figure 7 indicates. Thus, educational opportunities, the biggest avenue of upward mobility for the middle classes, are generally not used by these people or are unavailable to them. In part, at least, this can be understood in terms of the basic solidarity of the family unit and the fact that the children go to work quite early to supplement the family income.

Migrant Attitudes

Attitudes Toward Their Families and Their Society

"What is the happiest thing in your life?" was answered overwhelmingly in terms of the family (e.g., "my wife," "the kids," "having the family together," etc.), making this one of the basic keys to understanding the migrant workers in these facilities. Here is

Figure 7. Distribution of Migrants' Educational Attainment

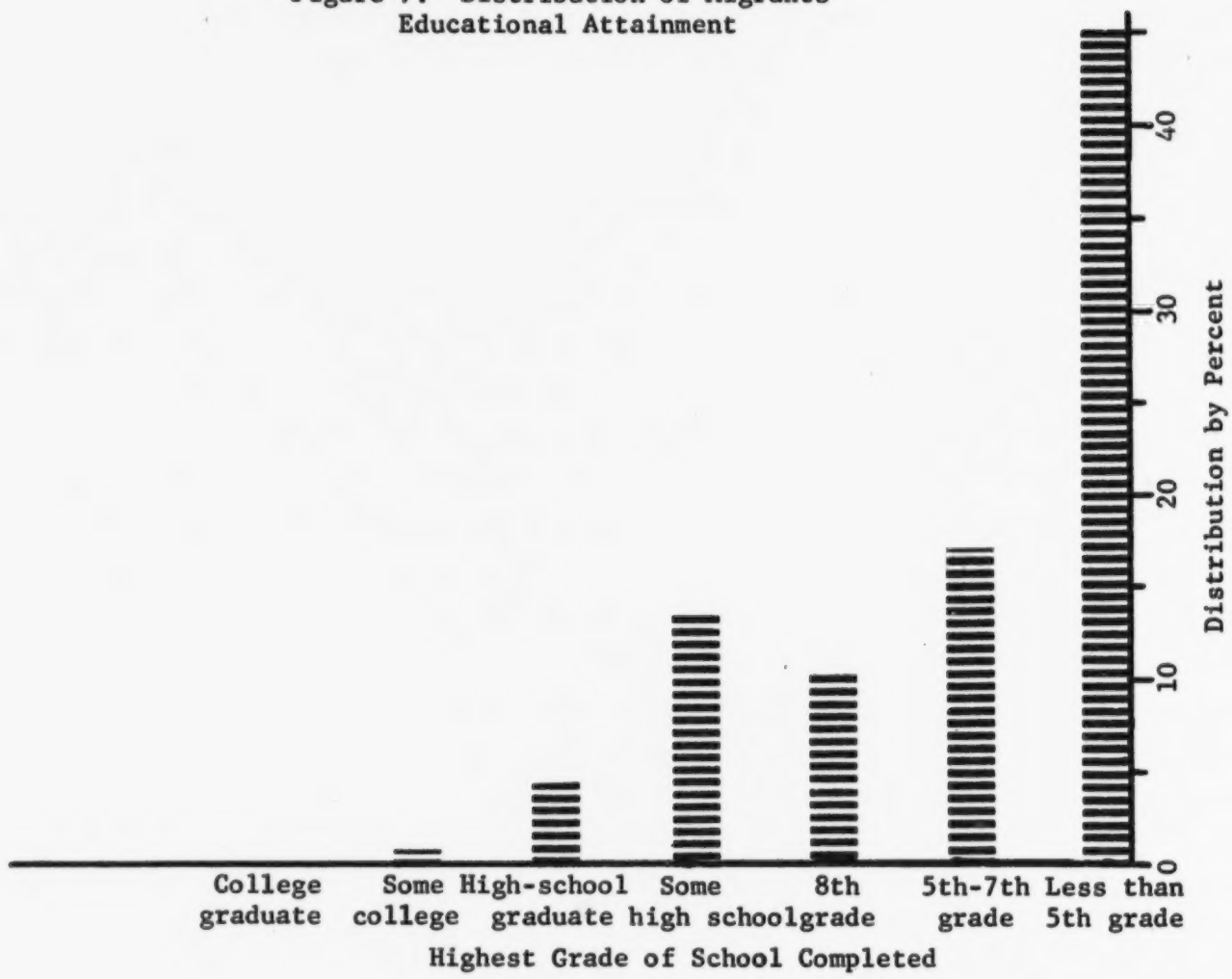
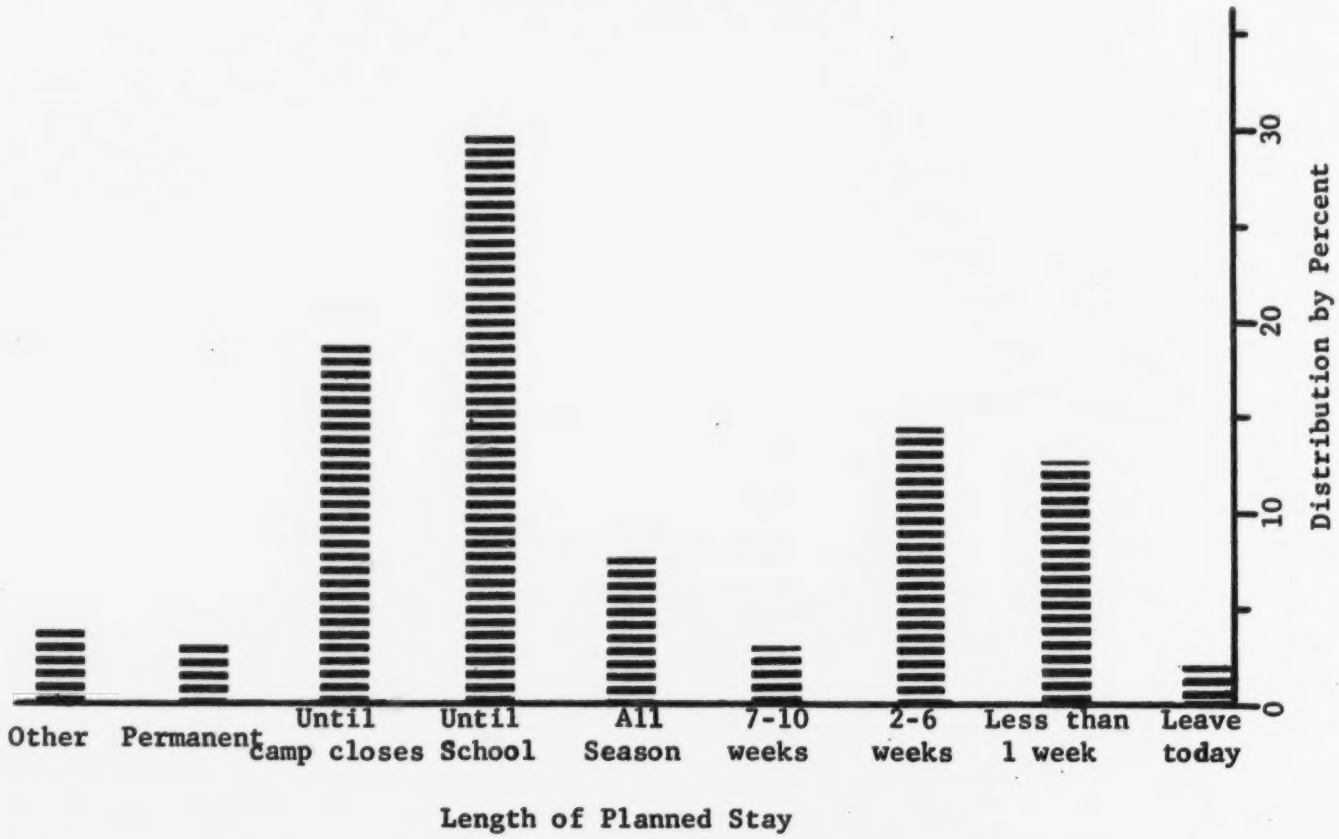


Figure 8. Length of Time Migrant Plans to Stay at Camp



one of the few areas in the U.S. in which the family as a family is the economic unit of social organization, a phenomenon that accounts to a great extent for the patterns of behavior and attitudes which emerge in the study of the migrant.

Their religion is important too. When not migrating (i.e., when at "home base"), slightly more than 51 percent of the families reportedly attend church once a week or more, a figure considerably higher than would result from a middle-class sample. When on the road, however, only about 15 percent attend their churches this often. Seventy-five percent responded that human life is decided by fate or God rather than by any action of man. This acceptance of the "traditional" environment is also manifest in the fact that 70 percent of the respondents feel that it is most important to take notice of those who are older. Mass media, however, do communicate to these people the values of the larger society, as can be seen in their responses to other questions. Two-thirds of the respondents, for example, feel it is very important to plan for the future rather than emphasize building on a structure which is already existent, as in most traditional societies; and approximately the same proportion feel that a person should go along his own way rather than accepting and following the pathways of others. Thus, these people are beginning to assimilate some of the values of the larger society into their own more parochial social structure. It remains to be seen whether these new orientations will change behavior patterns.

Migrant Orientation to General Environment

The most distinguishing fact about the migrants--that they are consistently on the move--suggests they might well have a greater feeling of disassociation from the larger society than other minority groups have. This suggestion is, in fact, supported by the data. Almost 55 percent felt that the community favored having the facility where it was, whereas a full 40 percent did not know at all what the community felt about the matter, and 13 percent did not even know whether the members of the community were friendly or unfriendly to migrants in general. If nothing else, this indicates a certain lack of communication between the migrant and the surrounding community. When asked whether the community had organized any kind of activity for the migrants in the facilities, 80 percent responded, "No"; the same proportion stated that they would attend such an event. Whether or not these activities were in fact staged, the migrants indicated a willingness to participate, but also manifested their own separation (both psychic and physical) from the community itself.

There is also only a very limited degree of formal political participation. Of those eligible to vote, only 45 percent reported ever having voted in a state or national election--a figure significantly lower than the national average--and of those who voted, more than one-third had done so in Mexico rather than in the United States. This is despite the fact that most of the migrants identify "home" as somewhere within the United States. This disfranchisement is probably largely due to the constant moving, but it does point up a problem in the political lives of these people.

The migrants' alienation from any position of power (possibly encouraging their feeling of lack of control over their lives) is also pointed up by their relationship to labor unions. Of the migrants in the facility, 94 percent have never been affiliated with farm

labor unions, and 82 percent have never been affiliated with any labor union. Nevertheless, 57 percent approve of farm labor unions, and the same percentage say they would join one if it were available in the area; at the same time, 26 percent do not know what they think of them and are undecided about joining. About 40 percent agree that the farm strikes were a good thing, 23 percent disagreed, and the others were undecided or uninformed in the matter. There seemed to be, then, substantial agreement favoring farm labor unions, but, again, with an almost total lack of real behavioral involvement in the situation. Many implied a fear of strikes, being unable to afford the unemployment that they felt would result if they struck.

As to choice of employers, seventy percent preferred to work directly for the grower, 15 percent chose the contractor, and the rest were undecided. The reasons for the choices were varied, but half of those choosing the grower felt that income would thereby be higher.

In general, the migrants seemed to be in situations which offered little control over their own activities, and there were indications that they desired some control.

Attitudes Toward the OEO Facility

A striking finding was the way in which information about the facility was transmitted. Only five percent learned of the facility through traditional mass communication media (billboard, radio, newspaper, etc.), while 85 percent learned of it by word of mouth and 10 percent by direct observation. The reason is probably that most mass media are not directed specifically to the migrant and he must find his information through informal channels. There is thus some indication of a well developed communications system within the migrant stream, but no sign of how extensive it might be.

Some come to the facility, it appears, with the intention of settling semipermanently, whereas to others it is just another stopping place (see Figure 8). Further analysis will distinguish between these two groups more completely. Without exception, however, the 319 persons were glad the camp was there, and 60 percent planned to return next year (the major reason being availability of work in the area). When asked specifically why they were glad the facility was available, an even one-third cited low rent, and 24 percent said no other housing was available (see Table II for further breakdown).

Thirteen percent had heard of organized activities provided by the facility for adults, but about 75 percent of these people were concentrated in the Los Banos and Ballico camps, indicating that such activities were not uniform among the different camps. Activities usually consisted only of evening adult classes in English as a Second Language, or in Basic Education. An occasional "fiesta" or similar social event for the camp occupants was held on an irregular basis.

Complaints about the facility centered mostly on weaknesses in the physical plant (lack of refrigeration facilities, lack of privacy in the housing units, lack of privacy and cleanliness in the sanitary facilities, dust, roofs leaking, etc.). On the whole, however, the respondents were happy with the camp.

A unique aspect of the new OEO camps was the Day-Care Centers (DCC) for children, freeing both parents. An overwhelming "Yes" was the response as to whether the DCC were needed for children up to the age of 12. Some 93 percent felt the necessity of the DCC

TABLE II

RESPONDENT'S REASONS FOR BEING GLAD THE HOUSING FACILITY WAS AVAILABLE

Respondent's reasons	Number	Percent
Facility was quiet	6	1.9
The low rent	106	33.3
No other housing available	75	23.7
Facility was convenient	55	17.3
The day-care center	7	2.2
All facilities were provided	34	10.7
Less dependence on grower	3	0.9
The social aspects	7	2.2
Toilets and showers	0	---
The quiet and convenience	6	1.9
The quiet and low rent	9	2.8
The low rent and convenience	1	0.3
No response	9	2.8=
Total	318	100.0

for children of 2-6. The major reason was that both parents could work without taking the children to the fields. The response was also positive to the question of whether organized activities should be provided for youths of 13-17. A need for the latter was not felt quite as strongly for many people thought by that time the youngsters should be working in the fields. Those who did see a need for such activity, however, felt that children of this age group need recreation to keep them out of trouble.

The major preferences on activities for children of 2-12 were for programs which would provide educational opportunities as well as recreation (see Table III for a complete list). Whatever the program, however, most agreed that the DCC was valuable.

The migrants seemed quite happy with the facility; it did in fact provide better housing than could normally be attained by families in the migrant stream.

Aspirations for the Children

What is happening to the children of these migrants? The answer is somewhat complex, for aspirations are one thing and actual possibilities are another. Nearly two-thirds of the respondents reported that they expect their children to go to school through or beyond the twelfth grade. For some of these children, however, there is no question but that schooling is disrupted by migration. Approximately half of the families having school-age children along with them had left home before school was out in the spring, would not return until after school had started in the fall, or both.

Over one-third of the families want their children to have a job that would be classified as skilled, semiprofessional, or professional. About 20 percent felt their children should decide on the type of job they took up, and about 15 percent said that they didn't really care as long as the job was a "clean" job. While the families begin to desire different things for their children, the children are still living within the social complex which produced their parents, a circle that is hard to break.

Although only slightly more than 10 percent wanted their children to be farm laborers, over one-third thought that children of 7-12 should work in the fields with their parents. Over four-fifths of those 12-17 were already working in the fields to supplement the family income. In addition, 13.3 percent of those 8-11 were working in the fields. It seems likely that the pattern of life will be largely duplicated in the next generation, even though there now seems to be a set of aspirations which are being thwarted and which quite possibly didn't exist before. The resulting disappointment may give the next generation greater mobility from the migrant stream.

TABLE III

TYPE OF DAY-CARE CENTER PROGRAM DESIRED BY RESPONDENTS FOR CHILDREN AGED 2-6 AND 7-12

Day-care center service and activities	2-6 year-olds		7-12 year-olds	
	N	%	N	%
Recreation only	97	30.5	63	19.8
Education only	54	17.0	122	38.4
Medical care only	3	0.9	2	0.6
Food service only	3	0.9	0	---
Care only	27	8.5	11	3.5
All of the above	30	9.5	18	5.7
Manners, etiquette, etc.	2	0.6	3	0.9
Religion	1	0.3	2	0.6
English	0	---	0	---
Recreation and education	35	11.0	29	9.1
Recreation, education, and medical	3	0.9	2	0.6
Education and food service	4	1.2	2	0.6
Miscellaneous	3	0.9	10	3.1
Don't know	49	15.5	46	14.5
No response	7	2.2	8	2.5
Total	318	99.9	318	99.9

CHAPTER III--DAY-CARE CENTERS

INTRODUCTION

The program of day care was one of four specific service areas designated in the "purpose" section of the California State Migrant Master Plan.[1] All OEO migrant-housing facilities in operation in California in 1966 provided some type of day-care facility and program. Judging from the findings reported in Chapter II, these day-care centers were well received by the families living in the facilities.

Eight selected day-care centers in OEO migrant housing facilities in the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys were studied by a three-member observation team to determine where they might be strengthened in coming years. These centers and their programs were and will be a very important phase of the total OEO migrant farm-worker housing program, for they provide a service badly needed by the migrant family. Mothers with youngsters from infancy through five years of age are now able to work in the fields and be assured that their children are being taken care of by adults. In the past, such mothers either took the youngsters into the field or left them in camp with an older child.

These day-care centers, besides providing badly needed care, can also be made much more effective as socializing institutions. It is hoped that administrators and day-care-center program directors will accept the following evaluation as constructive criticism principally of lacks in the materials and facilities made available to them. They are doing an excellent job under handicaps not of their own creation. Under no circumstances should anyone conclude from program weaknesses that the day-care centers should be dropped from the OEO migrant-housing program.

Findings in Chapter II indicate that the migrant family's impression of what day-care center programs should offer and actually do offer differs greatly from the offerings observed by the evaluation team. The stated purpose of day-care centers in the California State Migrant Master Plan[2] is:

> "Day care services should offer, at the minimum, protective (supervisorial) and educational experiences to pre-school and school-age children whose parents are engaged in agricultural employment."

The visits to the day-care centers showed that, with few exceptions, the majority of services offered had to be categorized as simply "supervisorial." The observation team identified the following factors as contributing most heavily to the lack of an educational program:

1) Too few well-trained, competent professional staff members;

2) Too little time for the professional staff to plan and prepare for operation of adequate day-care programs;

3) Inadequately trained aides.

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[1] Office of Economic Opportunity, "State of California Migrant Master Plan," (mimeo), Sacramento, California, April, 1965, p. 1.

[2] Ibid, p. 26.

Findings of the observation team reported in this chapter are based upon evaluations made against a checklist developed for this project. This checklist (Appendix B) was a compilation of commonly accepted desirable factors necessary to meet minimum requirements for licensing a day-care center. In addition, the items on this checklist are nearly identical to guidelines for operating a day-care center as set forth in the California State Migrant Master Plan.[3]

Four of the centers visited had been operational before 1966, and the other four were newly established. Each group is discussed separately.

FINDINGS

Established Day-Care Centers

The four day-care centers discussed in this section were already established and operational prior to 1966. These are: Gridley, Butte County; Patterson and Westley, Stanislaus County; and, Yuba City, Sutter County. These centers were operated directly by the County Housing Authority, except that the Yuba City day-care center was operated by the Sutter County School Office and the Yuba City School District under a contractual agreement with the Sutter County Housing Authority.

Physical Facilities

In general, all of these centers had insufficient outdoor and indoor space during peak periods of child enrollment. Provision for the care of infants was ample in only one facility, even though three of the four did actually care for infants as a part of their total program. Lighting and heating appeared adequate, although in two facilities the air-conditioning and ventilation were below minimum requirements during the two or three hottest months of the summer.

Only two centers had toilet fixtures scaled to child size. None had enough to let fixtures to meet the minimum standards. Only one day-care center had an isolation room so that an ill child could be properly isolated, and only two had an area that could definitely be designated as a reception room.

Kitchen facilities appeared adequate in all four centers, though two of them would probably be somewhat strained during periods of peak child enrollment. In two centers the kitchens were not separated from the playrooms, and one in particular presented a definite problem in that clean-up noise was normal during the childrens' nap period.

Program

Art and science programs for pre-school youngsters appeared adequate in the established centers, as did opportunities for indoor and outdoor play. As mentioned previously, all programs were deficient in organized activities and equipment designed to promote the development of both large and small muscles. At least two of the four centers were deficient in the area of literature, definitely lacking books fitting the interests of children.

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[3] Ibid, pp. 26-35.

Two of the four centers were doing an adequate job of helping the children to develop hygienic habits in relation to play, rest, relaxation, and nutrition. Of the other two centers, the staff of one expressed concern in this area but was greatly limited by adverse conditions.

The two centers accepting children over five years old appeared to be doing little to offer definite educational programs to supplement school experiences. Programs for this age group were primarily recreational and supervisorial.

Parental involvement in the program at two centers seemed to be limited primarily to reading notices posted on the camp bulletin board. Parents were not necessarily encouraged to observe the children, although they could if they saw fit, and parent-teacher conferences were limited primarily to "over-the-fence" conversations when parents were bringing or picking up their children. As far as could be determined, none of the centers offered regular organized classes or courses for parents of children involved in the day-care centers.

Health and Safety

Two of the four centers neither required a pre-admission physical nor record of immunization for admission to the program. These same centers had no planned immunization program, although immunization was made available to the children through the county Health Department in the event of outbreak of any disease for which immunization was available.

Two of the centers did keep complete health records of each child, and these records were available to any other agency on request. Only one of the four day-care centers in this group had a tentative plan and provisions for working with children who were emotionally disturbed, and, even here, no children had been referred.

Two of the centers had menus planned by a trained dietitian. In the other two, assistance was available from the county Agricultural Extension Service; however, the impression was that the menus at these facilities were prepared by the cook and approved by the county day-care center director.

Personnel

In general, there was a noticeable lack of competent professional staff trained to work with children and, more specifically, trained to work with children from migrant families. Two of the centers had competent directors but were short of trained teachers. The other two centers had a full-time director under the supervision of a county day-care director. None of these people had specific training in child development or related fields.

All of the centers appeared to have an adequate number of aides for the number of children enrolled. Many of these aides were recruited from the women living in the OEO camp, though this varied somewhat from camp to camp. Unfortunately, the observation team's impression was that far too many of the day-care centers were operated under the philosophy that their primary purpose was to provide employment for unemployed women, with the well-being of the children secondary. In most instances, aides were given no specific training, operating only on the basis of "motherly instincts" and "woman's intuition."

New Day-Care Centers

The new migrant-housing facilities studied were Ballico, Empire, Harney Lane, and Madison, respectively located in Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, and Yolo Counties. The Ballico and Madison day-care centers were operated by the county school system, and the Empire and Harney Lane centers were operated under the County Housing Authorities.

As in the preceding section, evaluation is reported in terms of deviations from minimal standards listed in the observational guide (Appendix B).

Physical Facilities

The buildings that housed these day-care centers were all of the speed-space type of construction. None of these centers met the minimum requirement of 35 square feet of playroom space for each child. Although this type of construction is designed to allow maximum flexibility in arrangement, only one center had capitalized on this feature.

The furniture in the playrooms was adequate in number and size. In general, the furniture was arranged to permit maximum play space. None of the centers had movable partitions for isolating special activities or dividing the total enrollment into small groups. Although all made storage space available for individual youngsters, at two of the centers this space was arranged so that much of it was totally inaccessible to youngsters.

For the most part, playground equipment was at a premium in all centers. There was a marked lack of large-muscle-building equipment--jungle gyms, swings, walking boards, monkey bars, etc. Only one of the centers had a paved area for riding wheeled toys (a sidewalk, not originally intended for such use). Two of the playgrounds had trees that could be used for climbing, but there was no evidence that such activity was encouraged.

Playroom equipment was adequate in all four centers, and two of the centers could be classified as well equipped. The available materials were nontoxic and, in general, noninflammable. The types of play material and equipment most commonly lacking were boards, boxes, barrels, small ladders, manipulative materials, small cars, trucks, and trains. Such materials allow for flexibility of programming. Only one of the four centers had a piano--with the keyboard cover kept locked.

All of the new facilities were air-conditioned except one--the only one with heating of any description. No center had a room thermometer.

In most instances, the water faucets were not located conveniently for children. There were few if any faucets in the yard for water play.

The playroom and kitchen were separate in two of the four new centers. One of the kitchens not adjacent to a playroom was adjacent to a clinic room where the ill were treated. However, in two of the centers the dining area doubled as a play area.

There were isolation rooms in three of the four centers. However, in one center the clinic room (adjacent to the kitchen) was used for isolation; in another there was an unenclosed hot water heater. The one center with no isolation room put ill children into a building used for resting; the building was kept dark.

No center had a reception room. In one case the clinic room doubled as a reception room.

Centers that had hooks and lockers for children had them at heights beyond the reach of children.

There was a lack of space outdoors, especially when child enrollment was at its peak. Yards were generally difficult to supervise because of the arrangement of buildings. In one case the play yard was not fenced off, but the whole camp itself was fenced off. There was little or no grass on the play yards, and, with a breeze dust could be almost intolerable.

Program

Only one of the four centers had any equipment for water play.

In all centers the curriculum consisted of indoor and outdoor play. In most cases there was or had been something growing, such as an animal or plants. From the looks of supplies there was a heavy emphasis on art, mainly painting. There were few small-muscle toys and few large-muscle toys.

Only one center had adequate parental involvement. In this center the parents took field trips with the children. In most instances, the people in charge had to make home visits to get or give information about the children.

Health and Safety

Since these centers are operated by the county it is assumed that county fire and sanitation inspections were made. Fire extinguishers were placed in various places on the wall of the playrooms.

None of the new day-care centers had toilet facilities scaled to child size, nor were there separate toilet facilities for the adults. Toilet facilities were usually not accessible from both the playground and buildings.

In one case, the children had physical examinations, shots, and dental work. However, there was trouble in getting medical treatment for the children in some of these camps. Even the county hospital did not want to treat the children unless it was an emergency.

Personnel

The personnel problems of the new day-care centers were similar to those noted for the established centers, and the solutions would be the same.

CHAPTER IV--RECOMMENDATIONS

1. All future housing facilities for migrant farm families should be located close to the fields using the labor force available, rather than selecting a site that is politically expedient for the local power structure.

2. The OEO housing facilities are overwhelmingly endorsed by the migrants, and improvement, expansion, and maintenance must be continued, to attract migrant farm workers during periods of peak labor demand. It is not enough to say that "anything is better than the river bank." If protection from the elements continues to be minimal and if the centers remain in isolation from the local communities, little is gained by having them.

3. The day-care facilities and programs must be improved and expanded. Major emphasis should be given to strengthening the quality of personnel, who seem too often to be undertrained and overworked, as well as additions to and improvements of the physical plants, which are too often inadequate for the needs of the people in the facilities.

4. In the day-care centers, attention should be given to developing an educational curriculum that will compensate for the inadequate school potential of the children of migrant farm workers.

5. Educational opportunities must be provided for school-age children of migrant farm workers to compensate for the interruptions in the normal school year that occur for many of them. Such programs are also needed to help these children develop a feeling of participation in the larger society around them and to enable them to perceive available alternatives to farm work in adult life. Regular school programs in the areas near migrant farm-worker housing facilities must receive whatever outside assistance is necessary to ensure instruction of migrant children during the time when the facilities are in operation and school is in session.

6. The low educational level of the migrant farm worker revealed in this and similar studies indicates that educational programs for adults should be an integral part of these migrant housing centers. These programs should offer not only basic education, but skill training in areas that are meaningful and useful to the migrant farm worker.

7. Based on the experience gained during the first year of this project, the investigators recommend that, in the future, a participant observer technique be employed to gain more meaningful attitudinal data from the migrant farm workers. This project should be expanded to include single migrants as well as migrants travelling with their families.

APPENDIX

Appendix A

CALIFORNIA STATE MIGRANT MASTER PLAN*

Housing

I. Shelter Units

A. The shelter units must meet the following criteria

1. Basic family shelter units must be large enough to shelter a family of five and include a minimum of 300 square feet of interior floor space. Families exceeding five or with more than three adults will be expected to occupy a second shelter.

   Shelter units may be augmented with smaller units to serve couples, couples with an infant and overflow from families exceeding five.

2. Units must provide adequate protection against normal environmental factors including heat, cold, wind and rain to permit comfortable and healthful occupancy and be experimental design (sic).

3. Shelter units must be simple enough to erect and dismantle to permit the occupants to put up their own. They must also be of such size when dismantled that they can be conveniently moved and stored.

4. Individual living units must be durable enough to withstand the hard use that can be expected. They should be resistant to fire, mildew and insect damage. Minor repairs should be simple and inexpensive. The units should have a use life of at least five seasons.

5. The shelter units purchased with OEO grant funds will not exceed $500 each exclusive of site preparation, foundation, equipment and other related costs.

6. The shelters developed with this grant must meet the minimum social and physical needs of the occupants. The installation of such shelters is subject to requirements set forth by local zoning, sewage disposal and water supply ordinances.

7. Notwithstanding the provisions of California Labor Code, Section 2629, the shelters developed must conform to minimum standards of construction, occupancy and safety, applicable to temporary buildings in labor camps as administered by the Division of Building and Housing Standards of the State Department of Housing and Community Development.

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*Only those sections specifically applicable to this report are listed in this appendix section.

II. Construction

A. Plans

B. Sites

2. The selection and acquisition of sites for migrant housing shall be guided by the following criteria in order to assure full consideration of the welfare, needs and conveniences of migrants and to preclude private gain or benefits inconsistent with the purpose of the grant:

a. Proximity to harvest area which attracts migrants;

b. Accessibility to educational, day care and health facilities if these are not to be on the site;

c. Convenience to grocery, laundry, drug, gasoline and other services;

d. Ease of access and discovery from major thoroughfares used by migrants;

e. Size adequate to meet the minimum space requirements of the proposed camp including social factors as described in architectural consultants' report, First Governor's Conference on Farm Workers Housing (page 12);

f. Capability for the development of a domestic water supply and sewage disposal system which meets state and local sanitation requirements;

g. Preference will be given in site selection to land currently in public ownership;

h. If public land is not available, a survey of possible sites will be made to determine which site meeting criteria, i.e., a., b., c., d., and f. above is most economical.

C. Facilities

III. Administration

A. Personnel

B. Operation

1. Duration

a. Terms of occupancy of any shelter facility must be specified in contract application;

b. Term of occupancy may not exceed legal limitations related to temperature or duration of seasonal camps;

c. No facility may be used at any location in excess of 180 days in any calendar year.

2. Rent, Fees and Payment for Services

a. Rent for the use of flash-peak shelters will be determined by the local administering authority. Rent will be at the option of that authority, but in no case will exceed fifty cents ($0.50) per night per family. Rents collected shall not result in a profit to the sponsor and shall be returned to the State Office of Economic Opportunity.

b.

3. Use and Maintenance

   a. Shelter constructed and facilities constructed with OEO grant funds shall be maintained at all times in a safe and sanitary condition in accordance with standards prescribed by state law and local ordinance.

   b. The property constructed, renovated or repaired with OEO grant funds shall not be diverted from its primary use as a facility for housing migrant and other seasonal agricultural workers without the prior approval of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

4. Occupants

   a. Absolute priority shall be given at all times in granting occupancy and use of the housing and other facilities constructed, renovated or repaired with OEO grant funds to persons whose primary employment is in agriculture without regard to race or creed as defined in section 3 (f) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203/f/), or performing agricultural labor, as defined in section 3121 (g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (26 U.S.C. 3121/g/), on a seasonal or other temporary basis.

   b. Priority in occupancy should be given to family groups.

   c. Opportunity, encouragement and positive assistance should be given to tenants to form Resident's Advisory Councils which are independent of camp management and can provide communication between residents and management.

   d. Tenants may be evicted only for violation of previously agreed-to camp rules developed with the maximum feasible participation of the residents. Eviction process using the tenant's council to make the final determination has proved effective.

5. Off-season

   a. The adaptability of shelter, sites and facilities to other uses should be considered. Sites may be adapted for recreation use during the off-season periods.

Appendix B

Checklist for Evaluation of Day-Care Centers[1,2,3,4]

Physical Facilities

Buildings and Facilities:

- Buildings located within a one-half hour distance from children.
- Fire inspection.
- Sanitation inspection.
- Size of playrooms--35 square feet per child.
- Soundproofing of rooms.
- Flooring smooth and free of splinters.

Light and Ventilation:

- Each playroom has outside windows, the area of which is at least 10 percent of the floor area of the room.
- Artificial lighting should be at least 25 to 35 foot-candles.
- Window low enough for children to look out.
- Adjustable shades or curtains to protect from glare.
- Securely fastened screens or windows and doors against insects.

Heating and Air-conditioning:

- 68 to 70 degrees within 2 feet of floor.
- Thermometer in each room.
- Radiators have protective covering.
- Electric heaters (portable) not used.
- Furnace or central burner must be completely enclosed in a room of fireproof construction.

Water and Toilet Facilities:

- Local sanitation approval.
- Water heater enclosed to keep children from it.
- Water used by children kept under 120 degrees F.
- One toilet and washbasin for every 8 to 10 children.
- Toilet room directly accessible to playroom and playground.
- Fixtures for height of children.
- Each child has own washcloth and towel easily accessible to child, or use disposable towels.

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[1]Read, Katherine H., The Nursery School, Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders, Co., 1966.

[2]Hammond, Sarah Lou, Ruth J. Dales, Dora Sikes Skipper and R. L. Witherspoon, Good Schooling for Young Children, New York: The Macmillan Co., 1963.

[3]Heffernan, Helen, Guiding the Young Child, Boston: D. C. Heath and Co., 1959.

[4]Child Welfare League of America, Standards of Day Care Service, New York: Child Welfare League of America, Inc., 1960.

Drinking water available indoors and out.

Paper cups available to children.

Separate toilet and basin for adults.

Kitchen Facilities:

Separate from playrooms.

Located so food can be transported readily and kept hot.

Refrigeration for perishable foods.

Sterilization of dishes and silver.

Conveniently located cupboard space for canned foods and staples.

Basin for washing hands.

Easily cleaned surface for walls and floors.

Isolation Room:

First-aid equipment (out of reach of child).

Materials hazardous to child under lock and key.

Toilet and lavatory facilities--accessible for sick child.

Reception Room:

Toys for children, and reading material for adults.

Separated from playrooms and other facilities.

Outdoor Play Area:

100 square feet per child.

Fencing at least four feet high around boundary.

Trees or cover for shaded area.

Ground mainly turf.

One-fourth of area hard-surfaced so children can ride wheel toys (concrete not desirable).

Area of dirt and sand.

Outdoor sink, faucet, or drinking fountain.

Storage for outdoor play equipment.

Equipment and Furnishings

Furnishings:

Tables, chairs, and shelves of height and size appropriate to child use and comfort.

Materials nonpoisonous and noninflammable.

Individual lockers with hooks for coats and hats, about child eye-level.

Space for child's possessions.

Movable partitions for special activity.

Flat-bottom sink and equipment for water play.

Cots and/or towels for naptime.

Arrangement of Furnishings:

Doors and traffic lanes kept clear of blocks, etc.

Materials on shelves within child's reach.

Playroom Equipment:

Blocks of different sizes and shapes.

Boards and boxes.

Paints and easel space.

Clay.

Dolls.

Homemaking equipment.

Piano.

Record player.

Drums--bells.

Books.

Manipulative materials.

Small cars, trucks, trains, etc.

Jigsaw puzzles.

Paste, paper, and scissors.

Dress-up materials--clothes, hose, old high-heel shoes, etc.

Kitchen utensils--pans, strainers, etc.

Mirror (full or half-length).

Playground Equipment:

Barrels.

Small ladders.

Tricycles.

Wagons.

Climbing equipment.

Swings.

Walking board.

Supports for climbing equipment securely fastened underground.

No protruding corners or edges of cement which children could fall against.

Surface under equipment should be dry and resilient dirt, tanbark, or gym pad.

Swings with rubber sling or lightweight wooden seats.

Equipment placed away from shrubbery and other obstacles, to prevent accidents.

Program

Curriculum:

Art and music.

Literature--books for interest level of the children.

Science--planting things and watching them grow--live animals.

Opportunity for outdoor and indoor play.

Equipment for large-muscle development activity.

Equipment for small-muscle development activity.

Establishment of hygienic habits in relation to exercise and play, rest, relaxation, and nutrition.

Parental Involvement:

Bulletin-board notices to parents.

Telephone calls.

Notes home.

Parent-teacher conferences.

Home visits.

Study groups--study aspects of child development and behavior.

Parents encouraged to observe children during day-care-center activities.

Appropriate literature made available to parents interested in reading about certain topics.

Health and Safety

Preadmission physical examination by a qualified pediatrician.

Inspection on arrival.

Immunization.

Isolation of child who becomes ill.

Exclusion of sick children.

Plan to care for children with mental-health problems and to work with their parents.

Health record maintained.

Daily diet planned in consultation with a nutritionist.

Personnel

Qualifications:

Interest in and capacity for enjoying children.

Capacity to discern the feelings and needs of a child and deal with them sympathetically.

Ability to accept violently expressed feelings without undue upset.

Ability to deal in a nonpunitive but firm fashion with out-of-bounds behavior.

Dependable and consistent.

Flexible and willing to learn.

Capacity for pleasant and cooperative relationship with others.

Resourcefulness.

Respect for difference of children and parents from various cultural groups.

Number needed:

One trained and experienced teacher and two less experienced assistants.

At least two adults.

Three adults per each 18 to 20 children.

The qualified teacher should be a graduate of an accredited four-year college with a major in early-childhood education or child development.

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